Dear Friends,

As the largest religious order of priests and brothers in the Catholic Church, an order that dates back nearly 500 years, the Jesuits’ mission of going where the needs are greatest has taken us around the world—teaching, ministering and transforming lives from the most desolate outposts to the most crowded cities. Here in the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces, we find ourselves providing great outreach right within our country’s most populated and burgeoning metropolitan areas. From Georgia to Maine, our many Jesuit schools, parishes, retreat centers and ministries reach a diverse audience hungering for spiritual growth, a Christ-centered education and social justice.

As many cities continue to grow in population and expand their boundaries, we continue to answer the call and reach out to those on the margins. Despite fewer Jesuits, an increase in men discerning a call to our novitiates is a promising new trend. Last year, 15 Jesuits were ordained to the priesthood in North America, the highest number in 15 years. Nurturing our men in formation is so very important to ensuring that the spirit of St. Ignatius carries on through our many institutions. Along with the invaluable work and collaboration of our lay colleagues, teachers and volunteers, the Society of Jesus remains a trusted source for spreading the Gospel and preparing future generations to be brothers and sisters for others.

We hope you enjoy this spring issue of JESUITS magazine. While quiet, reflective prayer is certainly an important part of Ignatian spirituality and an invaluable way of growing closer to Jesus, we focus these pages on how the Jesuits and our companions boldly go forth to “set the world on fire,” helping people in our cities face and overcome some of their toughest struggles.

Sincerely in Christ,

Very Rev. Robert M. Hussey, SJ
Provincial, Maryland Province

Very Rev. John J. Cecero, SJ
Provincial, USA Northeast Province

Bernardus colles, valles Benedictus amavit, oppida Franciscus, magnas Ignatius urbes.

Bernard loved the hills, Benedict the valleys, Francis the towns, Ignatius great cities.

– Unattributed
ABOUT OUR COVER
Dan Corrou, SJ, a Jesuit in formation, pictured on the campus of Boston College.
Photo by Gary Wayne Gilbert
In the News

FROM OUR PROVINCES

New Appointments and Leadership...

John Glennon Jr. has been named headmaster of Georgetown Prep, effective July 1, 2016. John served in various administrative capacities at Georgetown Prep from 2001 to 2010. This past July, he returned to the school as assistant headmaster. His wide range of experience at Georgetown Prep is complemented by his work in education outside the school community. In 2010, John earned an EdM in School Leadership from Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education. While in Boston, he served as a principal intern at TechBoston Academy, a pilot school in the Boston Public School System. In 2011, John moved to Philadelphia to help found Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School, where he served as assistant principal. While in Philadelphia, he also taught sophomore math and a junior English elective.

Fr. Frank Kaminski, SJ, was recently appointed coordinator for parish outreach for the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces. As part of The Jesuit Collaborative team, he will focus particularly on the efforts of Jesuit parishes to foster an Ignatian vision and lifestyle within their faith communities. Fr. Kaminski’s interest in Ignatian spirituality began during his years in Chile, where he worked for more than 10 years with the Christian Life Community (CLC). Back in the United States, he joined the Jesuit Urban Service Team forming an Ignatian community of faith in the predominantly Latino neighborhoods of North Camden, N.J. Beginning in 2000, he was missioned to Loyola on the Potomac Retreat House in Faulkner, Md., where he offered spiritual direction and directed numerous retreats. Throughout his Jesuit life, the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius have been at the heart of his ministry. He is hoping that this new connection with TJC will give broader focus to what he feels is a primary work of the Society of Jesus.

Fr. Joseph Costantino, SJ, will begin service as pastor of St. Ignatius Church in Chestnut Hill, Mass., on June 1, 2016, succeeding Fr. Robert VerEecke, SJ, who faithfully served the people of St. Ignatius as pastor for 27 years. Fr. Costantino entered the Society in 1977 and was ordained in 1987. He has since served in a variety of roles, including teaching philosophy at Canisius College and serving as Jesuit vocation director. In 2006, he began his work as pastor.

Fr. Christopher S. Fronk, SJ, who is serving as a military chaplain in the United States Navy, has been named the next president of Jesuit High School of New Orleans. He will begin his new assignment this November. Fr. Fronk, a native of Monaca, Pa., received his bachelor’s degree in philosophy from Saint Louis University before earning his master’s degree in theology from Heythrop College of the University of London. He secured a second master’s degree in religious education from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, and a third in military studies, emphasizing leadership, planning, and strategy from the Marine Corps University Command and Staff College in Quantico, Va. Before starting his military career, Fr. Fronk’s assignments in the Maryland Province included service as a high school teacher and chaplain at Scranton Prep, and as a campus minister at Saint Joseph’s University, University of Scranton, and Wheeling Jesuit University. He also served as rector of the Jesuit community at Wheeling Jesuit University.

Fr. Robert VerEecke, SJ, who faithfully served the people of St. Ignatius as pastor for 27 years. Fr. Costantino entered the Society in 1977 and was ordained in 1987. He has since served in a variety of roles, including teaching philosophy at Canisius College and serving as Jesuit vocation director. In 2006, he began his work as pastor.
of the Church of St. Francis Xavier, in New York City, completing a $13.5M restoration of the Church. Most recently, he was elected a delegate to the 36th General Congregation of the Society of Jesus to be held in October 2016.

Sean Hagerty, SJ, 31, was climbing the corporate ladder in the beer-distribution business when he decided to become a Jesuit priest. And even by Jesuit standards, that’s a very uncommon path. But there hasn’t been anything routine about Hagerty’s life to date, so it was no surprise when he decided to commit to such a bold course of action.

Shortly after enrolling at New York’s Xavier High School, the Jesuits made a quick impression on him, as Sean recalled recently in an article published by the Jesuit Conference. He fondly remembers that “They were smart and kind and loved what they were doing. They were very present in our lives—whether helping out with the yearbook, moderating the Chess Club, or attending games.”

To read the rest of Sean’s vocation story and to learn how he transitioned from student to a captain in the U.S. Army to life as a Jesuit, visit www.JesuitsEast.org/hagerty.

Fr. Daniel Lahart, SJ, was elected president of Regis High School, in New York City, effective in the fall of 2016. He replaces Rev. James Croghan, SJ, who served as interim president from 2015-16. Fr. Lahart comes to Regis after serving as president of Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston, Texas, for the past 14 years. Prior to his time at Strake Jesuit, Fr. Lahart served as vice president for finance and administration at Gonzaga College High School in Washington, D.C., and served as assistant for secondary education for the Maryland Province. Fr. Lahart joined the Jesuits in 1983 and was ordained in 1994.

Joseph Petriello, EdD, was named principal of Fordham Preparatory School in the Bronx, effective July 1, 2016. Dr. Petriello has a long history as an Ignatian educator, having directed the Christian Service Program and chaired the religious studies department at Xavier High School for several years. He most recently served as assistant for secondary and pre-secondary education for the USA Northeast Province, helping schools throughout the Northeast address challenges, implement continuous improvement, and advance their mission—all in order to prepare them for the opportunities that the future holds for Jesuit secondary education. Dr. Petriello is a proud graduate of Fordham Prep’s Class of 1998.

Fr. Jack Mattimore, SJ, was appointed as the next director of Yap Catholic High School in Micronesia, to begin in July 2016. Fr. Mattimore entered the Jesuits in 1976 and was ordained in 1988. A graduate of Canisius High School in Buffalo, N.Y., he holds a bachelor’s degree from Fordham University, STB and M.Div degrees from Regis College, and advanced degrees from the University of Toronto, Columbia University and Fordham University. He previously served as an administrator at Fordham Prep and at Canisius High School and worked as a chaplain at St. Luke’s Mission of Mercy, Roswell Park Cancer Institute and the Buffalo Federal Detention Facility. Most recently, he has served as an English teacher and department chair at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Baltimore.

Michael Wiencek was named principal of Yap Catholic High School, effective June 2016. Mr. Wiencek, a graduate of the University of Scranton, served two years as a volunteer teacher at YCHS before going back to the U.S. to work at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Philadelphia. Returning to Yap this year, Mr. Wiencek became the school’s director of college counseling and assistant principal. He is also the school’s chemistry teacher.
Caring for our environment may seem like a daunting task. Even with the best intentions, it is often difficult to come up with clear ways to make lasting differences in our surroundings, but with ingenuity, foresight and planning, Jesuit high school students and staff are planning to curb climate change in a major way.

Inspired by presentations at the 2014 Ignatian Family Teach-In, three faculty members from Cheverus High School in Portland, Maine, saw an opportunity to reshape the school community’s ecological efforts to minimize their contribution to climate change.

Data shows that the Gulf of Maine is warming faster than most other ocean regions, and Portland (a state more ecologically conscious than many others) has already embarked on a citywide climate initiative, stemming back to 2006.

The initiative that Mary King, Cicy Po and Helene Adams, teachers in the theology and the science departments, envisioned would be a multi-faceted, school-wide program with an intentional focus on climate change awareness and institutional change. First, King, Po and Adams needed a way to get the attention of fellow staff members and a plan to enlist others to help amplify potential results.
Creating Allies

With backing from school administrators, King, Po and Adams hosted a full-day, in-service training for faculty that focused on climate change and that served as a follow-up to a school-wide summer reading of *Parched* by Georgia Clark, a fictional work that envisions a world where water is a scarce commodity.

The in-service day featured several presentations focusing on different aspects of climate change, from an overview of Pope Francis’ encyclical *Laudato Si’*, to a glimpse into the current political process.

“We had staff members who fell all along the spectrum when it came to climate change,” King said. “Everyone was genuinely concerned for the state of our environment, but not all were convinced about the human causes or dramatic consequences of the warming. The challenge was seeing how we can bring this to our faculty and encourage them to see how this relates to their subject matter. Then, finding ways they could bring that to their students.”

Prompts were given to members of each academic department, and they were asked to create a mini lesson for students during the upcoming year. The music department composed an environmentally aware song; the math department focused on the math behind climate change; fine arts created a 2-D climate change logo; and English teachers suggested creative writing prompts based on student artwork. To drive home the planning session, the events were followed by a lunch exclusively comprising locally sourced food, and water served from pitchers instead of single-use plastic bottles.

Stewardship as a Mission

A central challenge would be actually implementing change amidst a school calendar and a workload that was already approaching full.

Throughout the school year, teachers have been approaching Ms. King and pointing out connections and insights they discovered between their curriculum and climate change. Some faculty in the theology department screened the film *Tapped*, which points out the resources used in order to produce just one plastic bottle of water, and they effected a department-wide ban of single-use water bottles.

The school also officially began its first year partnering with Garbage to Garden, a company created in 2012 by Tyler Frank, a 2003 Cheverus graduate. Garbage to Garden provides customers with lidded buckets for food scraps that are picked up on a weekly basis. In return, the organization offers compost to Portland and surrounding towns. The compost is free to patrons, but is sometimes sold or donated to community gardens and schools. Mixed-stream recycling centers were also introduced to the school, which encouraged students to separate plastic and paper recycling items from trash destined for landfill.

“The recycling centers have created an intentionality that hadn’t been there before. Educating our community about responsible environmental stewardship on a daily basis speaks to the Grad-at-Grad and what it means to be a Christian leader,” said Rodger Cilley, assistant principal at Cheverus. As environmental consciousness gained momentum, teachers and department leaders were taking it on themselves to think about other ways
The Jesuit Carbon Emissions Challenge empowers participants to minimize their impact on climate change and promote environmental justice. Five sample challenges for readers to consider include:

1. Going two whole days without wasting any food at all
2. Stop purchasing disposable plastic water bottles
3. Saying grace before dinner, pausing to pray silently for those who picked and produced your food
4. Implementing a one-light-per-person-per-room policy in your home
5. Become the ecology officer at your workplace and implement mixed-stream recycling

Garbage to Garden, created by a 2003 Cheverus graduate, turns food scraps into usable compost for customers in Portland, Maine, and the surrounding areas.

The Jesuit Carbon Emissions Challenge

In an effort to prompt reflection and action among other schools in the Jesuit network, King, Po and Adams have created the Jesuit Carbon Emissions Challenge. The Challenge will be a means for Jesuit secondary and pre-secondary schools to address climate change by comparing progress across Jesuit middle and high schools. When the program launches in fall 2016, the challenge will use monthly prompts to inspire, empower and motivate schools and individuals to reduce waste and emissions.

Challenges include going a whole week without using Ziploc bags for lunches, not wasting any food for two whole days, listening to a climate-change podcast and researching the sustainability practices of people’s favorite brand-name clothing companies.

The Challenge is a mechanism to help students and staff recognize their complicity in climate change and environmental justice. However, active participation will foster hope in the capacity to make efficacious change, the planners wrote. Schools and individuals will also realize the spiritual and temporal benefits that come with making sustainable choices, and will understand how their choices around consumption relate to Catholic Social Teaching, Christ’s gospel message and the themes of Laudato Si’.

“We hope the Challenge will help our schools move from thinking about sustainability as an ‘add-on’ or just a kind thing to do, to an integral part of our mission, identity and responsibility as a Jesuit School in the year 2016,” King said.
Cheverus High School students during the advocacy portion of the Ignatian Family Teach-In, with U.S. Senator Susan Collins (Maine).

Above: The Portland, Maine, city skyline.

When Jesus asked us to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, and visit the imprisoned, he didn't mean it literally, right? In Mercy in the City, Kerry Weber—a modern, young woman in New York City—sets out to see if she can practice the Corporal Works of Mercy in an authentic, personal, meaningful manner while maintaining a full, robust, regular life.

Weber explores the Works of Mercy in the real world, with a gut-level honesty and transparency that people of urban, country, and suburban locales alike can relate to.

Weber is a mercy associate and managing editor of America magazine. She is an alumna of the Mercy Volunteer Corps and of the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism and is also an alumna of Contemplative Leaders in Action, a two-year faith formation and leadership development program in several cities, rooted in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. For more information visit www.jesuit-collaborative.org/contemplative-leaders.
A TEACHER, A ROLE MODEL, AND A SPIRITUAL LEADER FOR THE HANDICAPPED AND DISABLED . . . HE UNDERSTOOD WHAT THEY WERE GOING THROUGH, MET THEM WHERE THEY WERE, AND HELPED THEM REACH THEIR DREAMS.
On December 19, 2015, Fr. Rick Curry, SJ, finally got his right arm. After a lifetime of helping the disabled, Fr. Curry passed away from heart failure at the age of 72. Born into this life without a right forearm, Rick Curry’s father would often promise him a new one for his birthdays, when he was a child. Hoping for a miracle, his mother even took him to see and kiss the relic arm of St. Francis Xavier. But young Rick didn’t pray for one. He was content the way he was, it seemed.

But perhaps St. Francis did inspire him, for at the age of 19, Rick entered the Society of Jesus and became a Jesuit brother in 1962. Acting had always been a passion, but when ridiculed for having the audacity to show up for a TV commercial audition with only one arm, he realized the magnitude of the struggles that lay ahead, and how he could best help others who faced the same closed doors. The next day, Br. Curry’s national theater workshop for the handicapped officially opened in New York City; a second location was later established in Belfast, Maine. He focused on changing attitudes about the disabled and creating opportunities for handicapped actors and actresses. From the deaf and the blind, to amputees and the wheelchair bound, those dreaming of performing on stage or in front of the camera flocked to Br. Curry’s workshops. He had become what was surely the world’s only talent agent dedicated solely to the disabled.

Rick Curry also loved baking, which he learned and crafted as a young Jesuit. He authored several renowned cookbooks, including the bestseller The Secrets of Jesuit Breadmaking. In much the same way that acting led to his first venture assisting the marginalized, baking led to his second big project: reaching out to disabled veterans returning home. He conceived and founded the Dogtag Bakery in Washington, D.C., a bakery and workshop that raises money for disabled vets and teaches them valuable entrepreneurial skills. The business training they receive through Dogtag Bakery is now part of Georgetown University’s continuing education program.

Having only one arm never deterred Rick Curry, and it certainly didn’t hold him back from fulfilling his final call in life—to transition from life as a Jesuit brother to service as a Jesuit priest. Having already surmounted so many obstacles, figuring a way around canon law (which required two hands to celebrate Mass) was simply par for the course. He did, and on September 13, 2009, at the age of 66, Br. Richard Curry, SJ, became Fr. Richard Curry, SJ.

Always inspiring by example, Fr. Curry once quipped that he was never able to attend a one-handed school to teach him how to live in a two-fisted world. “I learned to adapt,” he said. “It wasn’t always easy, but I look at this disability as a gift from God.” For so many struggling with how to adapt in their own ways, Fr. Curry’s love and guidance were indeed gifts from God as well. He was a teacher, a role model, and a spiritual leader who understood what they were going through, met them where they were, and helped them reach their dreams.
The Jesuit ideal of “living as men and women with and for others” resonates deeply with Kristin Prinn, MSW, LCSW, a 2004 graduate of Saint Joseph’s University. Prinn’s mindset is borne of sacrifice, compassion, and the importance of giving back and looking out for others, which are all Ignatian lessons her mother taught her as a youth. What’s more, these teachings were compounded by the time she reached SJU.

She hit the ground running once she arrived on Hawk Hill as an undergrad, working with the Faith-Justice Institute and taking service-learning classes each semester. She also participated in numerous leadership opportunities, retreats and service-immersion trips. Prinn received her bachelor’s degree in sociology, and upon graduation, she earned recognition for her dedication: she received the SJU Achievement Award and Curran Service Award.

She served a one-year mission with Associate Missionaries of the Assumption along the United States–Mexico border in the Mexican colonia Chaparral in New Mexico. She stayed two more years to study and work and volunteer in the border region. As a missionary,
she worked with gang-involved youths in the community, schools and juvenile prison. In those years, she earned her master’s degree in social work from New Mexico State University and became fluent in Spanish.

When she moved back to Philadelphia, she looked across the Delaware and thought Camden would be a great fit for the next chapter of her life. Her Camden journey began in youth ministry at St. Joseph Pro-Cathedral parish, a vibrant 21st-century church led by Msgr. Robert McDermott, a Camden native and visionary whose efforts were truly meeting the needs of Camden’s most vulnerable populations.

“Fr. Bob believed in a ‘hand-up, not a hand-out,’ and was not only my boss but also a tremendous mentor and role model for me,” Prinn said. To become a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, it was necessary for her to work a second full-time job, completing 4,000 clinical hours as an in-home therapist serving the highest-risk youths and families in Camden.

She decided to put her passion for serving others into creating a program of her own, founding LUCY Outreach, which is an acronym for “Lifting Up Camden’s Youth”—a name that the first young people whom Prinn was working with came up with on their own. In 2012, when LUCY was in the early stages of its creation, Camden was noted to be one of America’s poorest and most dangerous cities. Many youths there faced daily challenges, such as teen delinquency, gang involvement, drug use (especially in homes), teen pregnancy and a struggling public school system.

Starting LUCY seemed a daunting task—but one which Prinn was only too eager to undertake. “So many people throughout the years had done so much for me, and it was time for me to step up and do something for others,” she said. “Although I was constantly outside my comfort zone, and often lacked sleep and support, I never felt afraid to fail. Failure wasn’t an option—it couldn’t be an option. There were too many lives, too much potential in my hands, and I owed it to each of ‘my kids’ to support and motivate them to be their best and show everyone else what and who Camden really was.”

As founder and executive director of LUCY, Kristin and her colleagues have helped fill the void created by these social issues by enhancing the quality of life of young people in Camden through educational, social, spiritual and service-oriented programming. To date, 170 participants in the program have graduated from high school, with an additional 34 on track to graduate in June. All of them enrolled in some form of higher education or active-duty military service—and these participants came from a city with a high school graduation rate of only 60 percent, where less than 5 percent go on to receive college degrees.

“As a Jesuit-educated social worker, I feel called to promote justice and prioritize values that transcend the traditional definition of what it means to be successful,” Prinn said. “In turn, the youth I’ve worked with have taught me how to be a leader who is concerned about our world, its communities and its people.”

In October 2015, Kristin received the Ignatius Award from Saint Joseph’s University Alumni Association in recognition of her devoted efforts to serve others in ways consistent with the principles of Saint Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits. Ten of her original LUCY participants were there to give a speech and to present her with the award, including four who are currently attending Saint Joseph’s University and thus are receiving the same Jesuit education that Prinn received more than a decade ago.

This spring, LUCY starts an exciting new chapter, becoming an independent 501c3. “After enjoying great success operating as an initiative of St. Joseph Pro-Cathedral for so many years, we owe so much to the parish for our ability to grow into the educational outreach center that we are today. We will soon become an independent youth program, and our Catholic, Jesuit roots will continue to be a crucial part of our programming and all that we do.”
The center of my life must be on the margins. Wherever people are forgotten and pushed to the periphery, I must find my home. As a Jesuit, and as a person inspired by Ignatian spirituality, I am called to center myself on the periphery, a spiritual exercise of always being off-balance, always being a little outside my depth.

In Dec. 2010, when I was assigned to study the Arabic language for three years with the Jesuits in the Middle East Province, Syria was a stable nation; no one had ever heard of the “Arab Spring,” and we considered the military dictators in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya to be secure for life. Then things changed.

Amidst transition, I was very grateful for my Jesuit brothers. There are about 120 Jesuits in the Middle East Province, and most of them are from Lebanon, Syria and Egypt. Just like Jesuits in the U.S., they run schools, parishes, formation centers, and University St. Joseph in Beirut. These Jesuits from the Middle East Province...
East became tremendous friends and taught me so much. Not only was I called to learn Arabic and improve my French, but also I learned to learn about the diversity of Eastern Christianity and its profound insights into prayer and liturgy. I also needed to learn to be a Christian in a Muslim-majority environment. So much that had been peripheral to my life needed to become the center of my vocation.

In 2011 there were few Syrians who came to Lebanon, but by 2012, as the war grew more violent, the refugees began pouring into this tiny, fragile country. We started by collecting blankets and food and distributing them to Syrians we met. The program became more organized when Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) opened its operations, and when we began formal food distribution, and later opened schools and community centers.

JRS continues to do extraordinary work inside Syria with those who cannot flee, as well as Lebanon, Jordan, and now in Europe. It was a great blessing to work with the JRS during my time in Lebanon. I learned so much from the people with whom we worked. As an American Jesuit scholastic, I learned about home from refugees, and I realized I was learning about God from Muslims. The Jesuit connection to the Middle East goes back to our earliest history as a religious order. This land was an important step in the conversion of St. Ignatius. This land, and the work that was outside my traditional understanding of the Church, became my center. The people fleeing a violent war in their homeland became my teachers as they invited me into their lives.

We were all horrified at the summer-2015 images of Aylan Kurdi, the small boy who drowned while trying to get to Greece, and whose body was washed onto the shores of Turkey. Having seen these images, I was reminded that this periphery—this refugee boy who, on that beach, literally died on the margins—needed to be the center of our concern. This child, just one of millions of children forced to flee their homes, must be the center of my life and the focus of my work. Only then will I be off-balance enough—and far enough out of my depth—to begin to glimpse the greatness of God. For this God who called me to be a Jesuit, calls each of us to clothe the naked, house the homeless, feed the hungry and accompany the lonely. God’s loving call to each of us is to make the peripheries of our world the center of our concern.
A Tale of Two Mayors...
And One Jesuit High School
By Mike Gabriele
They graduated in back-to-back years from St. Joseph’s Prep in Philadelphia, even played on the same football team. Little did they know 40 years ago, when big hair and big lapels were in vogue, that they would someday be back-to-back mayors of their beloved city. Michael Nutter, Prep class of ’75, recently completed two terms as mayor of Philadelphia, from January 2008 to January 2016.

Jim Kenney, Prep classmate Jim Kenney, also knew the benefits of a Catholic education. After graduating from St. Joseph’s Prep, he earned his bachelor’s degree from LaSalle University, also in Philadelphia. Winning a seat on the City Council, he held his position for 23 years before leaving to launch his candidacy for mayor.

The mere facts that these two students graduated so close together from the same Jesuit high school and later to St. Joseph’s Prep in North Philadelphia. Upon graduation from the University of Pennsylvania, he worked for both Xerox and an investment banking firm before gaining a seat on the city council and later running for mayor. At a time when Philadelphia was experiencing some of the worst crime in the city’s history, Mayor Nutter successfully worked to bring the homicide rate to its lowest numbers since 1967. He received an honorary doctorate in public service honoris causa from Saint Joseph’s University in 2015.

Michael Nutter’s successor, both mayors, credit the years they spent at St. Joe’s Prep with their ambition to serve others and better their city.

Michael Nutter even chose to deliver his final public speech from the Church of the Gesu at St. Joe’s Prep. Speaking to nearly 900 students of his alma mater, as well as some former classmates, Nutter emphasized the importance of a life of service and how the Prep “prepared” him for such a vocation. “I learned more and more about community service right here at St. Joe’s Preparatory High School, and it truly prepared me for life service, the thing I’ve been doing for the last 30 or so years.” He went on to quote Saint Ignatius, saying that the founder of the Jesuits would often ask, “What am I doing for God and what more can I do for Him?” Nutter encouraged the young men to share their talents with the world.

On the same day that Mayor Nutter gave his final speech as Philadelphia’s top politician, incoming Mayor Jim Kenney delivered his inaugural address. Much in the same way, he gave a nod to the Jesuits and his Jesuit education at St. Joe’s Prep for having molded his understanding of the magis, doing more for others. He specifically claimed that two things got him where he was today: his parents’ sacrifices in sending him to the Prep and the Jesuit teachings he received. “Together they taught me that you can never truly be happy unless you are in service to others.”

While it may seem surprising that two classmates who graduated from the same high school a year apart both became consecutive mayors in the same city, it is not so unbelievable that they both bestowed such high honors upon their Jesuit educations. Those fortunate enough to have studied at a Jesuit school, at any level, understand how it can transform lives in ways that go beyond academic aspects. The city of Philadelphia can certainly attest to its effects. As Mayor Michael Nutter noted, “For at least 12 years, Philadelphia will be led by a Jesuit-trained graduate of the very same school.”
ON APRIL 27, 2015, JUST HOURS AFTER RIOTERS LOOTED BUSINESSES AND VIOLENTLY CONFRONTED POLICE IN PARTS OF BALTIMORE, FORMER MARYLAND GOVERNOR MARTIN O’MALLEY IMPOURED LOCAL CITIZENS: “WE MUST COME TOGETHER AS ONE CITY TO TRANSFORM THIS MOMENT OF LOSS AND PAIN INTO A SAFER AND MORE JUST FUTURE FOR ALL OF BALTIMORE’S PEOPLE.”

The riots were sparked in reaction to the death of 25-year-old Freddie Gray, who had died while in police custody and who had been eulogized earlier that day.

Nightly curfews and steady media attention affected the entire city, especially young people, as news of the unrest spread nationwide. The students, staff, and Jesuits at Baltimore’s Cristo Rey Jesuit High School and Loyola Blakefield remained safe, but in the following months, school administrators joined city leaders struggling to frame April’s events into a relevant learning experience for Baltimore’s youth.

Vinny Marchionni, SJ, a Jesuit scholastic teaching history at Cristo Rey, and Justin White, a theology teacher and director of community service, were pondering some type of school-wide academic response when inspiration struck them one afternoon in a school stairwell. The vision they had was clear and fully detailed: a two-week immersion experience set right within Baltimore that would point young people toward concrete ways to envision and create the safer, more just city that Governor O’Malley had spoken about.

It’s a Baltimore that still looks starkly different than today’s, but, this summer, that program will become a reality.

Between July 11-22, 20 rising seniors from Cristo Rey and Loyola Blakefield will partner with students from the nearby Notre Dame Prep to deepen their understanding of Baltimore in 2016 by taking part in Cura Urbi, named for a Latin phrase that describes care for the city. Teachers from all three institutions will offer morning coursework and multi-faceted programs during week one.
that delve into issues such as political redlining, food deserts (neighborhoods without access to healthy food options) and intentional injustices that exist throughout the city. The social justice lessons will be paired with field trips, service opportunities and daily Ignatian Examen reflections, while week two will entail small-group, independent research led by teachers, followed by an advocacy day with the city council and a Friday retreat.

“When we were first thinking about this program, we recognized right off the bat that our city is segregated and our educational system is also segregated in some sense. We set up the goal to break down those barriers in the spirit of collaborating together, to really take a focused look at Baltimore city and figure out why those differences are there.”

— Justin White

In his messages to Jesuits worldwide, Father Adolfo Nicolás, Superior General of the Society of Jesus, frequently calls Jesuits to depth—the depth of thought, imagination, moral passion and spiritual conviction that characterize Catholic and Jesuit education at its best. Teaming with educators and student leaders in Baltimore, Marchionni and White said that Curá Urbí will be a bold response to that calling. “As educators in a Catholic school and in a Jesuit school, we have to take that on even more because our Ignatian charism calls us not only to create men and women for others, but also to have them critically look at the world and work for a more just, more equitable society.”

Throughout the following school year, the students that took place in the first Curá Urbí will continue with prayer and reflections rooted in Ignatian spirituality that focus on caring for the margins, citing documents and letters from Pope Francis. Program leaders hope that this summer’s group will lead in efforts to educate their peers to become the next group of Curá Urbí participants. They also aim to work with elected officials and suggest that the program has the serious potential to bring out constructive, positive energy in young people—not just in the three schools involved, but also throughout Baltimore.

“Curá Urbí promises to be academically, spiritually and emotionally rigorous,” Marchionni said. “It’s also very practical. It’s of the world, in the world, and we want our students to understand the injustices they are seeing and to form opinions in a way that will really help the people of Baltimore. Students will gain a comprehensive, interactive understanding of the issues that shape the city they see before them, and will develop a deeper knowledge of Baltimore and sense of care, love and concern for this city.”
Loyola University Maryland’s FreshCrate program brings fresh produce into a part of the city lacking healthy grocery options.
Loyola University Maryland borders two main streets that bisect Baltimore. To the west is Charles Street, a quaint avenue lined with stately historic homes, many upwards of several million dollars. To the east lies York Road, a street where students know not to walk alone after dark. The stark contrast of living wedged between the wealthy and the poor has been a Loyola reality for a long time. Several years ago, the university took a major step in reaching out to its eastside neighbors. In 2010, the York Road Initiative was conceived, a program that got the Loyola community involved with the York Road community, collaborating to produce positive change.

Working to advance the education and development of young people was a key component in the initiative. Loyola’s MBA program created a business plan for the DeWees Recreation Center just off York Road north of campus, and with help from the university and other community officials, raised the needed money for renovations that helped keep the center open. Programs at the DeWees Center include after-school activities, education, and recreational programming. Loyola’s Athletic Department also reached out to draw members of the York Road community to attend free basketball games and other campus events.

Most recently, the York Road Initiative recognized a particular need prevalent in many poorer neighborhoods throughout America: the lack of healthy groceries for those without reliable transportation. Too many people who cannot afford cars are forced to grocery shop at convenience stores and other places where fresh produce is often not an option. Through the York Road Initiative’s new FreshCrate program, neighborhood corner stores can more easily purchase fresh, seasonal produce from Loyola’s dining vendor, for direct resale to customers out of crates located in their store. It is proving to be another great example of the simple collaborative efforts Loyola uses to join the hands of campus vendors and leaders to those of their eastside neighbors and business owners.

The coming months and years look equally exciting and bright for the York Road Initiative and the Baltimore community it benefits. The city has approved plans to move forward with a full-development project that will add some much-needed economic growth to the area. Over the next 10 years, Loyola University will play a key role in bringing some major infrastructure and transportation improvements to this part of town that for so long has been forgotten by city planners. The hope is to build a business district that will establish improved commercial management capacity along this stretch of York Road.

Erin O’Keefe, a 2003 graduate of Loyola University, has led the York Road Initiative since its inception, and was recently named director of Loyola’s Center for Community Service and Justice. “We have a tremendous opportunity to deepen our commitment as a Jesuit institution and to meaningfully address inequities in our world,” said O’Keefe. “I am honored to seek new ways for community voices to inform our work as we engage Loyola students, faculty, staff, and administrators in learning and leadership through service, and to collaborate with neighbors and partners on a broad range of essential service initiatives along York Road and throughout Baltimore.”

The initiative certainly seems to be on the right path. Hopefully in the not-so-distant future, the differences between Loyola’s eastside and westside neighborhoods won’t be so discernable to students, residents and the city at large.

“I AM HONORED TO SEEK NEW WAYS FOR COMMUNITY VOICES TO INFORM OUR WORK AS WE ENGAGE LOYOLA STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATORS IN LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP THROUGH SERVICE.”

— Erin O’Keefe
From Saint Ignatius Church in Port Tobacco, Md., which was established in 1641, to the Jesuits taking over the care of Saint Thomas More on February 1, 2016, the Maryland Province continues expanding to better meet the spiritual, educational and social justice needs of this ever-growing region.

For more than 50 years, Atlanta’s Jesuit footprint had solely been the Ignatius House Retreat Center just north of the city. But things are changing quickly. In August 2014, Cristo Rey Atlanta Jesuit High School welcomed its first students and is looking to relocate to a renovated 70,000-square-foot building around the corner. With Saint Thomas More now a Jesuit parish, Atlanta’s Jesuit presence has gained yet another branch on the tree, one that can further complement and develop the great apostolates already in place.

“We are so glad to have a Jesuit parish in the city of Atlanta,” said Fr. Robert Hussey, SJ, provincial of the Maryland Province Jesuits. “The church in Atlanta has been growing dramatically in recent decades. We want to increase our serving and collaborating with the people of God in this place of vibrancy for the church, now in the form of Jesuit parish ministry.”

Fr. Mark Horak, SJ, has come to Saint Thomas More as the new pastor. He is an experienced parish leader, serving most recently as pastor of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Washington, D.C. Fr. Patrick Earl, SJ, is the parochial vicar, coming from St. Peter’s Church in Charlotte, where he was pastor.

“I am enjoying my getting to know the people of Saint Thomas More, learning how they do things and understanding their needs,” said Fr. Horak. “Fr. Earl and I do what we have always done in our respective parishes—pray the Eucharist well and preach the Good News from our unique Jesuit perspective.”

Saint Thomas More has also become the official Jesuit community for the entire Atlanta area. Jesuits who serve the parish, Cristo Rey Atlanta Jesuit High School and the Ignatius House Retreat Center now call Saint Thomas More their home. “I have always believed that having Jesuits operate from a parish base, going out from that base each morning to do work in different ways and in other places, is an ideal model for Jesuit ministry,” explained Fr. Horak. “As a Jesuit community, we spend time together, encourage one another, talk with each other about our respective works, and nourish our imaginations and spirits.”

Fr. Hussey agrees. “Having all the Jesuits in Atlanta living in a single community at Saint Thomas More will be enriching, allowing them to share a common life together. It will also enable them to be connected with the life of the parish, even if their primary apostolic work is not at the parish itself. I hope that their presence together will also strengthen the bonds between the communities of the three Atlanta apostolates.”

“We have this great opportunity to bring something new to Atlanta,” added Fr. Horak. “My hope is that we can make the Spiritual Exercises and the spirituality based on them more widely available to the people here. The Jesuit retreat center and Cristo Rey reach a certain population; we at Saint Thomas More are reaching a different population.”

A parish has always been a place for Catholics to experience God through the scripture and the Eucharist, and to grow in their spiritual lives both individually and as a community of faith. Through the Jesuit lens of love in action and finding God in all things, Atlanta is now blessed with another avenue for coming closer to Christ through the values of Saint Ignatius.
“I AM ENJOYING GETTING TO KNOW THE PEOPLE OF SAINT THOMAS MORE, LEARNING HOW THEY DO THINGS AND UNDERSTANDING THEIR NEEDS . . . FR. EARL AND I DO WHAT WE HAVE ALWAYS DONE IN OUR RESPECTIVE PARISHES—PRAY THE EUCHARIST WELL AND PREACH THE GOOD NEWS FROM OUR UNIQUE JESUIT PERSPECTIVE.” — Fr. Mark Horak, SJ
Prayer 2.0

Printed texts such as the Spiritual Exercises and the Holy Gospels themselves will always be central focal points of Ignatian spirituality, but Jesuits worldwide are embracing technology and using multiple digital platforms to connect with students, parishioners, alumni and friends.

In Laudato Si, Pope Francis challenges God’s people to better care for our natural resources, pointing out that even though everyday technological advances like the proliferation of text messaging can run the risk of isolating society, technology could also lead us to spiritual growth.

Prayer apps such as JesuitPrayer.org connect audiences with scripture and daily reflections offered by Jesuits coast to coast; Pope Francis is issuing a new prayer intention each month in the new Worldwide
**Ignatian Reflections on Love**

### Falling in Love
Nothing is more powerful than feeling God, that is, than finding God, that is, than feeling the love
in a quite absolute, real way.

What you are in love with, what moves your imagination, will affect everything.
Whatever you do, what you say, what you read, what you know, what irritates your heart, what annoys you with joy and gratitude.
Fall to love, stay in love, and it will decide everything.

Attributed to St. Francis Xavier;
26th Superior General of the Society of Jesus (1565–80)

### Living the Poor
Jesus called to a way of exemplary poverty in a society that praises substantial wealth mobility.
The world is ordered with wealth and security and upward mobility and prestige.
But to be truly solidarity, walking with the victim, serving and loving.
In this sense, there is a real debt of hope.

Have the courage to love correctly.
Have the courage to suffer.
Have the courage to love.
Have the courage to change.
Have the courage to be broken.
Have the courage to be happy.
Have the courage to feel.
Have the courage to live in love.
Have the courage to get invited for life.
Have the courage to make a friend.

Modified quote by Fr. Dan Stucke, SJ, who administered to the poor in the USA, the homeless, prisoners of El Salvador, after the 1989 earthquakes.

**Get Connected!**
Visit our websites for daily offerings including prayers, podcasts and information about Jesuit ministries, Ignatian spirituality, special events and more.

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ThePopeVideo.org
JesuitsTransformingLives.org

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Prayer cards like the one above were downloaded by more than 10,000 friends of the Jesuits last holiday season.

Prayer Network video series; and Jesuit vocations are thriving thanks in part to a dynamic website, JesuitVocations.org.

Tremendous numbers of friends of the Jesuits along the East Coast have responded to our popular websites and social media channels.

Since the fall of 2014, the followers of Jesuits East Facebook feed (shared by the Maryland and USA Northeast Province) have nearly doubled in number, gaining over 1,000 new followers just during the week of the Pope’s visit. In 2015, nearly 100,000 people read news and feature stories on the thriving websites of our two provinces. They reached out to Jesuits during times of need, found information on parishes and retreat ministries, and supported critical causes, such as emergency relief following the devastating typhoon that struck last March and badly damaged Jesuit works in Micronesia. The USA Northeast Province Twitter channel also experienced much growth over the last year.

“Jesuit media coast-to-coast has never been so efficiently shared and so thoroughly embraced,” said Mike Benigno, director of communications for the USA Northeast Province.

“So many people—literally thousands each month—are turning to our websites to connect with the ministries of the Jesuits and to witness to the ways Jesuits and friends across our region are living out the Ignatian mission. In dynamic, colorful, and even beautiful ways, our web platforms are presenting not just news, but also the larger Ignatian context that underscores the importance of our Jesuit mission.”

A new series of digital prayer cards released for the 2015 Thanksgiving and Christmas season featured Ignatian prayers in an easy-to-print format that was downloaded over 10,000 times regionally and viewed nationally by many others on the websites of schools and other provinces. Similar digital prayer graphics created by Mike Gabriele, director of communications for the Maryland Province, marked significant Feast Days throughout the calendar year and became viral sensations on Facebook, some garnering more than 30,000 digital views, or imprints.

“Many times it’s these simple prayer graphics and messages that visitors to our page tend to share on their own Facebook pages, thus helping us reach an even broader audience,” said Gabriele.

In the upcoming year, two new monthly web series’ focusing on Eco-spirituality and ways that the Ignatian mission has transformed the lives of religious and lay leaders throughout our provinces promise to continue drawing large audiences.

“From the outset, Ignatius called Jesuits—and, by extension, their lay colleagues—to go where the people are, and to be of this world and in this world,” said Benigno. “Jesuits will always continue that work, serving thousands of men, women and families in very tangible ways. But today, we’re also making great strides and having a lot of fun finding new ways to share Ignatian spirituality with our growing online audiences.”
In the late 1970s, Father Pedro Arrupe, then Superior General of the Society of Jesus, moved by the perilous journeys to exile of the Vietnamese boat people, appealed to Jesuit major superiors for practical assistance.

The resulting spontaneous and generous “first wave of action” provoked him to reflect on how much more the Society of Jesus could do if its responses to this—and other crises of forced human displacement—were planned and coordinated. On November 14, 1980, Fr. Arrupe announced the birth of Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS).

JRS opens a door into the inspiring lives of people struggling to defend their rights, to protect their families and to give their children a future.

Accompaniment is the foundation of the JRS mission: to accompany, serve and advocate for the rights of refugees and forcibly displaced people. Working alongside refugees informs the goals of JRS programs, and the lessons derived from accompaniment and service drive advocacy efforts for just and generous policies and programs to benefit victims of forced displacement.

JRS Cambodia Country Director Sr. Denise Coghlan, RSM, said, “Accompaniment means seeing each person that we meet as a person of dignity. Our message is about creating communities of love.”
Dr. Katrine Camilleri, JRS Malta country director, underscored the need not only for immediate assistance to those in need, but also for continued, ongoing support. “People imagine that the refugees’ journeys finish the moment they reach the place they apply for asylum. . . . but in fact it’s the beginning of a new phase in their journey.”

For 35 years JRS has focused on education as a means to build peace and foster the development of more resilient and cohesive societies.

Coinciding with the Jubilee Year of Mercy this year, JRS has launched the Mercy in Motion campaign to support the JRS Global Education Initiative, a worldwide effort by JRS to expand educational programs to refugees and forcibly displaced persons. The goal of the initiative is to double the number of people served in its educational projects to more than 220,000 by the year 2020.

The U.N. Refugee Agency reports that 60 million people worldwide have been forced to flee their homes. Refugees sometimes spend many years in camps, notes JRS International Director Fr. Thomas Smolich, SJ. “Sometimes they’re able to go back home, sometimes they wind up being resettled in countries near and far. What they can always take with them is an education; it’s an intangible asset that allows them to make a better life wherever they may wind up,” said Fr. Smolich.

Mercy in Motion reflects the powerful words of Pope Francis: “Mercy is not an abstract idea, but a concrete reality.”

During an audience last November with refugees and JRS staff, Pope Francis said, “To give a child a seat at school is the finest gift you can give.”

Inspired by this mandate, JRS teams in cities and refugee camps around the world will strengthen and expand existing educational programs and make sure the potential of thousands of refugee children and young adults is not wasted.

“It’s hard work, but it’s rewarding work, because we have the ability to be present as lives are being transformed,” said JRS Uganda Country Director Fr. Kevin White, SJ.

JRS views education as a life-saving intervention. During emergencies when JRS and other agencies are focused on providing humanitarian assistance, JRS is also organizing educational and recreational activities as tools for healing and promoting psychological well-being. These are ways of bringing a sense of normality to the lives of children and youths, and the individual growth and empowerment lessons promote long-term, durable solutions to communities in conflict.

“Education helps resettled refugees integrate and contribute to new communities more quickly, and helps refugees who are able to return home to rebuild their countries,” said Armando Borja, regional director of JRS/USA.

JRS/USA serves as the major refugee outreach arm of U.S. Jesuits and their institutional ministries, mobilizing their response to refugee situations in the U.S. and abroad.

“As Pope Francis has spoken about the Year of Mercy, what I draw from it is asking us to extend the hand of the Church to those most in need. That’s what JRS is fundamentally all about,” said Fr. Smolich.
In recognition of their selfless efforts in the Church and in the community, the USA Northeast Province of Jesuits honors the Cloughs with its Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam Award, to be presented at the 2016 Jesuit GALA in April. The Latin phrase, meaning “for the greater glory of God,” is attributed to St. Ignatius, and is a guiding principle of the Jesuits.

“Chuck and I both feel that anything that’s nurtured us, we should nurture back,” says Gloria of her and her husband’s longtime love and support for the Jesuits.

It’s a mutually beneficial relationship that began for the couple—who met at a church dance in their teens—when Chuck enrolled at Boston College (BC).

A self-described “small kid” who grew up in Jamaica Plain, Mass., Chuck admits that he did not have a lot of confidence as a young man. His experiences at BC changed that.

“When the Jesuits enter your life at a formative time, they’re going to have an impact,” he explains. “They taught me that the best way to develop self-confidence is to be open to others, to serve others.” He adds that the other important life lesson he learned from the Jesuits is “ever to excel,” BC’s motto.

After graduating BC magna cum laude in 1964, Chuck earned an MBA at the University of Chicago. He was a top-
ranked stock market strategist on Wall Street before founding Clough Capital Partners L.P. in 2000. He is currently chairman and CEO of the firm, with more than $4.3 billion in assets under management.

Yet he still finds time to serve on the boards of a number of educational, health care, and charitable institutions, including BC—and to tend to the spiritual needs of the community at Holy Family Parish in Concord, Mass., where he is an ordained permanent deacon.

In the 1980s, when Chuck and Gloria were raising their four children, they became involved in youth ministry at their church. The priests noted Chuck’s gift for working with young people and continually encouraged him to go into the diaconate.

“So, I applied, knowing they’d never accept me . . . and they did. Then I entered the seminary, knowing they’d never ordain me . . . and they did,” Chuck explains in his unassuming way.

It’s this kind of humility that characterizes the Cloughs and their embodiment of the Jesuit principle of the magis—doing more for Christ, and therefore more for others.

Like her husband, Gloria has also pursued a life of ministry. She started her career as a pediatric nurse, then, inspired by Chuck’s seminary training, earned her master’s in divinity at the Weston Jesuit School of Theology (now Boston College School of Theology and Ministry).

The experience fostered in Gloria a close connection to the Jesuits, much like Chuck experienced at BC. “I had professors that nurtured me in my faith,” she recalls. “Being taught by them was like hearing a sermon every class; they are so inspirational.”

In the Jesuit spirit as a true “woman for others,” Gloria went on to establish the first chaplaincy program and serve as chaplain at Emerson Hospital in Concord. She then earned her master’s degree in nursing from BC and ran a private practice for 15 years as a psychiatric clinical nurse specialist. Today, she started her career as a pediatric nurse, then, inspired by Chuck’s seminary training, earned her master’s in divinity at the Weston Jesuit School of Theology (now Boston College School of Theology and Ministry).

The Jesuits just become part of your life and your mission,” explains Chuck. “They keep reminding you that service to others and ever to excel is part of your being.”

Friends of the Jesuits are leading the way to a very successful Jesuit GALA, the annual event in Boston that highlights the work of the Society. The Jesuits of the USA Northeast Province are grateful for the generosity and dedicated service of the 2016 GALA chairs.

Darlene A. Luccio Jordan, Esq., a 1989 graduate of Fordham University, earned a law degree from Suffolk University and worked as a prosecutor before becoming assistant district attorney and later assistant attorney general in Massachusetts. Darlene serves as executive director of The Gerald R. Jordan Foundation, the foundation named for her husband, which gives back to the working-class community of his upbringing, Revere, Mass., and primarily supports the arts, education, health, and youth services. She is also active in fundraising and philanthropic work, and serves on the board of directors of the Boys and Girls Club of Boston. In March 2012, Darlene received Fordham’s Founder’s Award; she is a current member of Fordham’s board of trustees.

Sean and Cathy O’Neill are both graduates of the College of the Holy Cross. Sean is a managing director at Clough Capital Partners, LP. Their sons, Patrick and Conor graduated from Holy Cross’s Navy ROTC program, following their father’s footsteps. Their son, Peter, and daughter, Kelly, are also Holy Cross graduates; Kelly is a founding member of Jesuit Connection.

Cathy and Sean are longtime partners with the province, serving as co-chairs of the second Jesuit GALA. They are also active board members and volunteers at Boston’s Nativity Prep and were the 2011 recipients of the school’s Callahan Service Award.

Philip W. Schiller graduated Boston College in 1982 and currently serves as senior vice president for worldwide marketing for Apple Inc. Schiller has had a marketing and managing career that spans 25 years, including leadership positions at Macromedia, Inc. (San Francisco, Calif.), FirePower Systems, Inc. (Menlo Park, Calif.), Nolan, Norton & Company (Lexington, Mass.) and Massachusetts General Hospital (Boston, Mass.). In his capacity as a member of Apple’s executive team, Schiller has helped the company change the world with the Mac computer, the iPod and iTunes, while redefining the usage of mobile phones and portable computers with the iPhone, the App Store and the iPad. Phil has served as a member of the board of trustees at Boston College since 2011.

Sant’ Andrea Society in Scranton:
Gratitude in Action

At a recent meeting of the Sant’ Andrea Society, volunteer leaders and Jesuits gathered to plan for upcoming events. Back row: Richard Malloy, SJ; Daniel Sweeney, SJ; Kathy Mihok, past president; Bernard McIlhenny, SJ; Thomas Pesci, SJ; Leonard Martin, SJ. Seated in front: Shanna Williamson, incoming president; Weston Hinchy, outgoing president.

For those seeking to become Jesuits, the path of preparation lasts approximately a decade. The formation process focuses on prayer, education, service and engagement in the world.

Each Jesuit in formation is fully supported by his home province, which assumes all costs for education, housing, travel and other expenses. These costs average $45,000 to $50,000 per year, totaling approximately $500,000 for each individual.

The Society of Jesus today is the largest order of priests and brothers in the Roman Catholic Church. In their ministries, Jesuits “go anywhere in the world where there is hope for God's greater glory.” Since the election of Pope Francis, Jesuit provinces throughout the world have been gratified to see an increase in the number of men considering the Jesuit path, providing us a unique opportunity to extend our outreach and meet the demands of a changing world.

“in’t no party like a Scranton party ‘cause a Scranton party don’t stop” is one of the well-known lines from the long running TV series, The Office.

This rings especially true for the Sant’ Andrea Society in Scranton, Pa., whose volunteers have hosted an annual fundraiser for close to 75 years in support of the education of Jesuits of the Maryland Province. Generations of women, including mother and daughter teams, have worked tirelessly to carry on this tradition of dedication and service. The events and generosity have continued, resulting in over $500,000 raised through the Sant’ Andrea Galas, providing essential funding for generations of Jesuits.

In 1943, a nucleus of 10 foresighted, caring and dedicated women of Scranton organized the Sant’ Andrea Society to support the training of Jesuit seminarians and to provide spiritual and social activities for its members. The name, Sant’ Andrea (St. Andrew) was taken from the name of the Sant’ Andrea novitiate in Italy.

The current president, Shanna Williams, and its members stand on the shoulders of past presidents and co-workers, whose zeal and dedication have provided a continual commitment of tradition and spiritual enrichment through the years.

This year the Gala took place on Friday, April 15. Attended by more than a hundred guests, the evening included a special recognition of two extraordinary volunteers who serve the Society: Mrs. J. Robert Gavin and her daughter, Maura Gavin. Their collective actions speak louder than words, and they pay heed to Father General Adolfo Nicholás’ words that “it is essential to give young Jesuits a human, spiritual, intellectual and ecclesial formation as deep, strong and vibrant as possible.”
As one group of men begins the journey of spiritual discernment, another group is ordained Jesuits in a formation process that follows the classic precepts laid down by St. Ignatius.

These men represent the future of the Society. At the end of their formation, many will take up roles of leadership in our Jesuit high schools and universities; some will teach, others will pastor. And still others will be assigned to strategic tasks in apostolic works around the globe.

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING THESE MEN AS THEY DEVOTE THEMSELVES TO THE SERVICE OF GOD’S PEOPLE.
Do not be afraid to heed the call!

Fr. Chuck Frederico, SJ, vocation director for the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces, presides at Mass at Canisius High School, Buffalo, N.Y.

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